

## The State of New Hampshire

## Department of Environmental Services



## Michael P. Nolin Commissioner

March 18, 2005 Letter of Deficiency DSP#05-003

Mr. Donald Fontaine Sullivan County Farm-Home RR 1, Box 392 Claremont, NH 03743

RE: Sullivan County Home Fire Pond Dam #240.26, Unity

Dear Mr. Fontaine:

The Department of Environmental Services, Dam Bureau (DES) consistently strives to enhance the safety of dams in New Hampshire through its dam safety program. One of the many instruments that play a part in reaching this goal is our inspection program. DES is forwarding this correspondence to you to advise you that in accordance with RSA 482:12 and Env-Wr 502.02, an inspection of the subject dam was conducted on December 2, 2004. During this visual inspection and/or file review, the following deficiencies were observed:

- 1. The concrete riser associated with the fire supply pipe appears to have moved. The portion visible above the water is not level as it appears to be in the 1997 photographs;
- 2. The stone masonry head wall located at the downstream end of the main spillway outlet pipe is cracked and a portion of it has moved. The cracking is located in the mortar between the stones directly above the outlet pipe. The stones located above the pipe have begun to move downstream;
- 3. The rip rap emergency spillway is overgrown with trees and brush;
- 4. The downstream embankment slope is overgrown with tall grass, brush and small trees; and
- 5. It is apparent that the operations and maintenance plan is not being followed as there is extensive tree and brush growth on the dam. The plan should be reviewed, updated, and maintenance personnel trained.

DES believes that the above deficiencies can be corrected by performing the following items by the indicated schedule:

## October 1, 2005:

- 1. In cooperation with DES personnel, dewater the impoundment and conduct an inspection of the concrete riser associated with the fire supply line;
- 2. Repair the stone masonry headwall located at the downstream end of the main spillway pipe; and

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- 3. Remove trees and brush from the rip-rap floor of the emergency spillway and downstream embankment slope, including the area surrounding the outlet headwall. Clearing of trees and brush along the downstream slope should extend a minimum of 15 feet beyond the toe of the embankment; and
- 4. The O&M plan should be reviewed, updated and maintenance personnel trained on the content and responsibilities associated with the dam.

DES is requesting that you complete and submit the attached "Intent to Complete Repairs" form, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, that will provide for correction of the identified deficiencies by the date(s) indicated above. Please call or write to our office if the repairs are completed ahead of the aforementioned schedule so that DES may schedule a follow-up inspection. Unless notified otherwise. DES will conduct the follow-up inspection on or after the date(s) indicated above. If you believe changes to the items of work or dates are necessary, please make the changes directly on the form and provide a brief explanation. We have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope for you to return this form.

Our intent in sending you this correspondence is to make you aware of items that DES believes warrant your attention to insure the continued safe operation of your dam. It is our hope that, through the submittal of the attached form and a commitment to keeping a well-maintained dam, you will voluntarily comply with the requested items of work. If we do not receive the intent form or a similarly adequate written reply, we will assume that you are in agreement with our findings and recommendations and DES will carry out follow-up inspections accordingly.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Letter of Deficiency or would like to be present at future inspections, please contact me at 271-3406, or write to the Water Division at the address listed on the bottom of the previous page.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Blaney, P.E. **Dam Safety Engineer** 

Attachments DB8, DB13, Sketch Illustrating Deficiencies, Copy of O&M Plan Currently On File cc: Gretchen R. Hamel, Legal Unit Administrator

Town of Unity

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